THE Lions' Pride
OF SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

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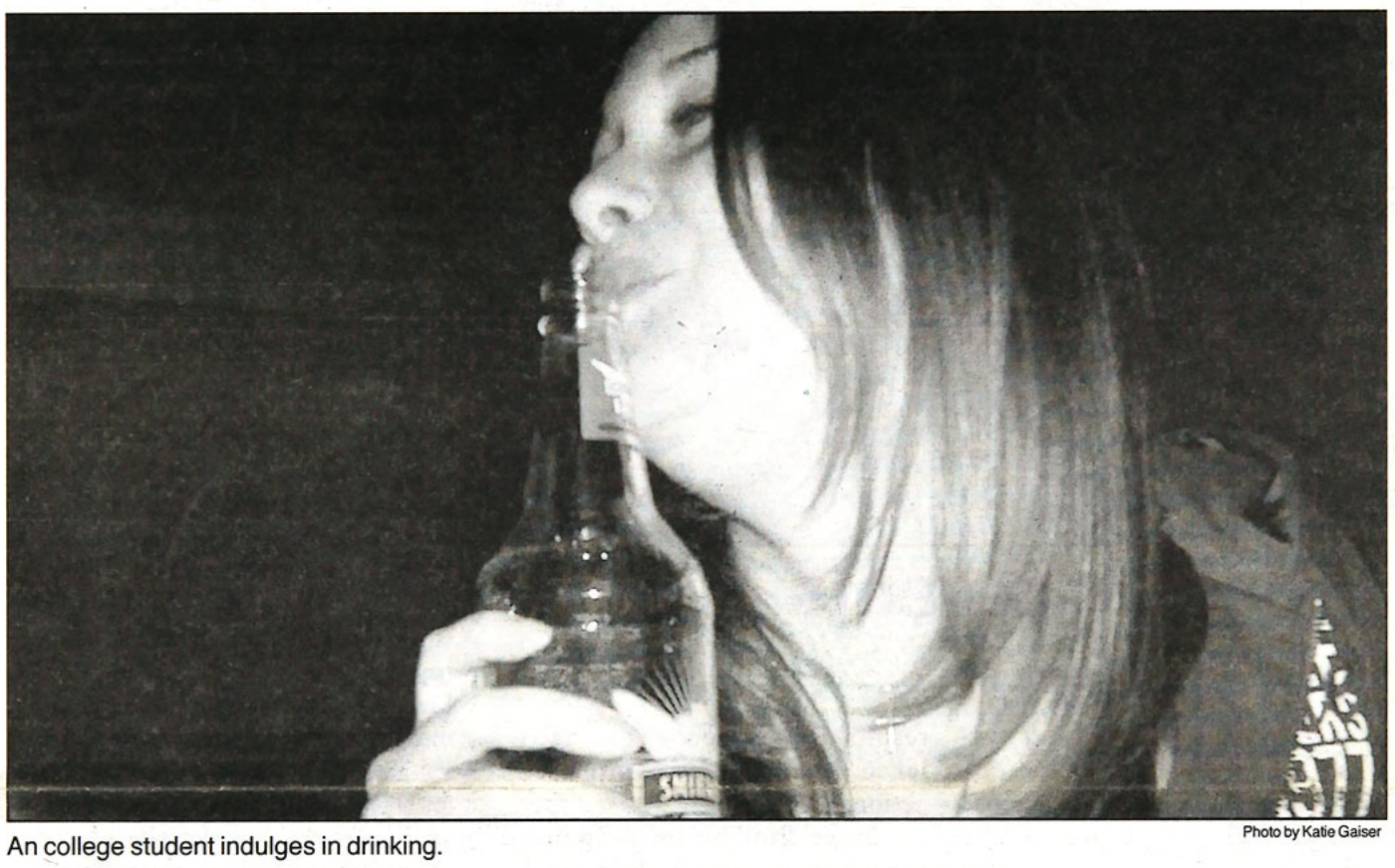
To sign or not to sign, that is the question

Petition may lower drinking age on college campuses

BY SIMONE WILLIAMS
Lions' Pride Ad Manager



An college student indulges in drinking.

Photo by Katie Gaiser

Excessive binge drinking by those both over and under 21 has caused more than 100 college presidents to take action—by trying to lower the drinking age to 18.

College presidents across the nation are signing a petition known as the Amethyst Initiative. It was started back in July with John McCardell, president emeritus of Middlebury College and founder of Choose Responsibility. McCardell contacted several Annapolis presidents to discuss the effects of the 21-year-old drinking age. They came to the general conclusion and sought to reopen public debate over the drinking age. The small group widened their circle of correspondences, believing that other presidents might agree with them. Thus, the Amethyst Initiative was born.

While the Amethyst Initiative doesn't support underage drinking, it does note that having the legal age at 21 is not working. According to the Initiative's website, "a culture of dangerous, clandestine 'binge-drinking'...has developed." Alcohol education that enforces abstinence has not resulted in a significant change amongst students, the website goes on to say. And, as is the argument for many college students, the website also brings into light the fact that those under the age of 21 are capable of voting, joining the military, and serving on juries but "are told they are not mature enough to have a beer."

"I think the drinking age should be lowered," said 18-year-old Freshman Christopher Carraher. "Fewer students would drink because everyone could do it. It wouldn't be the 'cool' thing to do anymore."

"I think it's awesome they're having open discussion of lowering the drinking age to 18," said 20-year-old Junior Nina Gechell. "Regardless of what happens, students are still going to drink. Everyone knows somebody who knows somebody who is 21. In other countries the drinking age is 18 and they don't seem to have all the problems America has. I think it's because there's no reason to rebel with alcohol."

Those under the age of 21 never seem to have a problem getting alcohol. Fake IDs, older siblings or friends, lax liquor stores, and even parents are all alternative methods of obtaining alcohol. But, not everyone is supportive of lowering the drinking age.

"I understand other students' reasoning for wanting the drinking age to be lower, but I think there's a reason why the legal age is at 21," said 18-year-old Freshman Jennifer Melendez. Melendez argued that underage drinkers try to be stealth about their illegal actions. If the legal drinking age were to be lowered to 18, she feels it would result in mayhem. "I see the pros and cons of lowering the drinking age, but I don't think it'll work out."

There is one thing everyone can agree on: alcohol abuse by college students is a huge problem. Studies have shown that more than 40 percent of college students ages 18-24 reported at least one symptom of alcohol abuse.

"I don't think that every college student drinks until they are throwing up. Some of them just want to chill," Gechell said. "Underage drinkers are probably less likely to call for help for their friends. They don't want to get in trouble. If the drinking age was lowered, maybe there wouldn't be that hesitation."

As of September 5, the Amethyst Initiative has 129 signatures—one of them being that of Saint Leo's president, Dr. Arthur F. Kirk, Jr.

"My main reason for signing the Amethyst Initiative was in support of an open national discussion of under aged drinking on college campuses, not as an advocate for an 18 year old drinking age. I discussed my position with our student affairs staff leaders and they agreed," Kirk wrote in response to a request from *The Lions' Pride* for a comment.

"Students seem to see drinking as a right of passage. College administrators can only urge abstinence, support the laws, and punish offenders, and that has been very unsuccessful in changing behaviors. We need to discuss a full range of ideas on how to ameliorate this problem. That might or might not lead to reconsideration of the 21 year old drinking age," said Kirk.

Not everyone agreed with the

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Saint Leo expands with the help of the freshman class

BY KATIE GAISER
Lions' Pride Layout Editor

There were a total of 504 incoming freshmen admitted this semester, making it the largest freshmen class in Saint Leo University's history.

Although there has been some speculation that this number is substantially greater than pervious semesters, there are only 44 more freshmen on campus than the previous school year.

However, freshmen are not the only cause of an increase in student population. This year, the school has seen larger retention numbers of students who actually returned from previous years.

"It's all attributed to the academic mission of the institution and the quality of the faculty, as well as the support services for each," said Kenneth Posner, assistant vice president for Student Services.

In order to accommodate housing for the growing population, Residence Life and Student Services opened up a previously existing but unused residence hall. Located just across the parking lot from Marmion and Snyder, 28 freshmen females are now living in fully furnished villas. These villas are fully equipped with the usual standards, including a laundry facility, kitchen area, and a lounge with a TV.

"Utilizing the villas allows the staff to really target programming rather than mixing the upper classes with new students," Posner.

"It's a more conducive and supportive environment for the freshmen, rather than placing them in a vacancy somewhere else on campus."

Even still, the school has not yet

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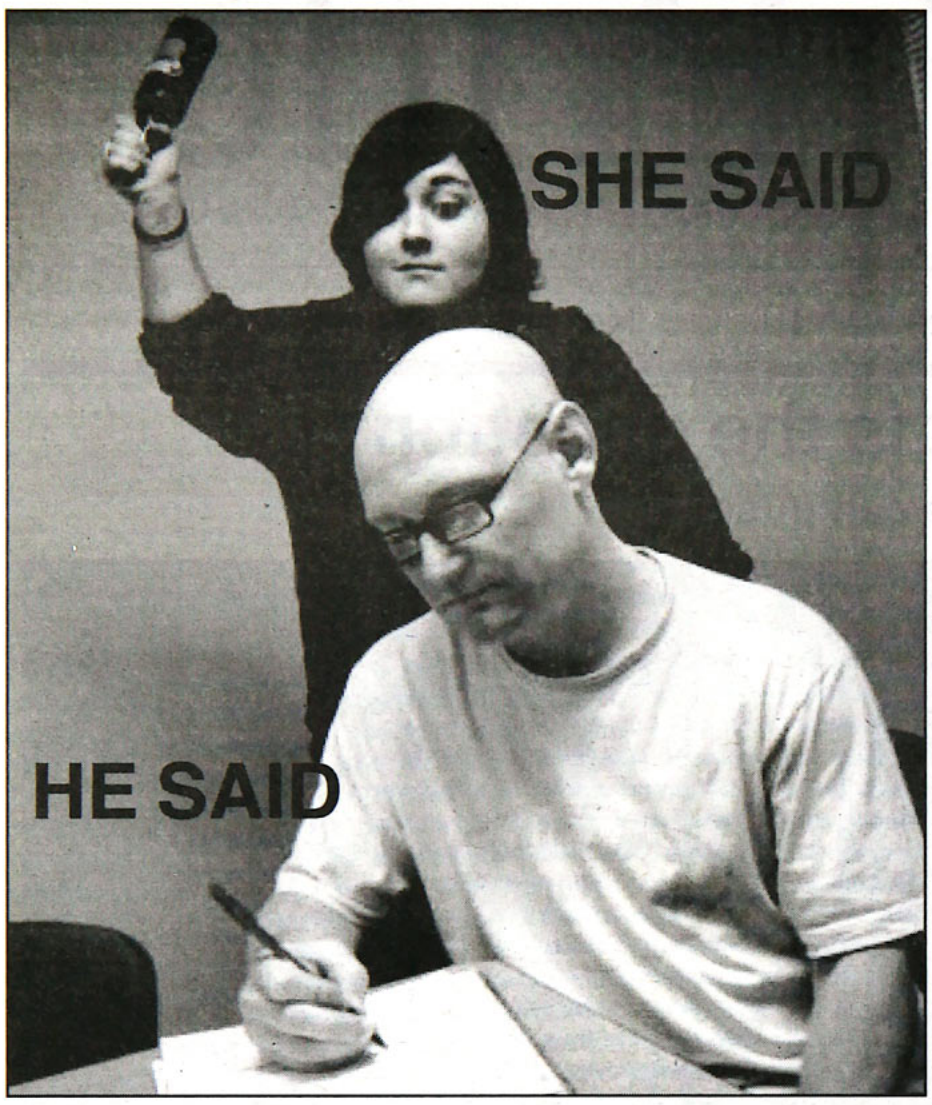
Opinions



A toast to parents everywhere

BY KATIE GAISER
Lions' Pride Layout Editor

There's been a lot of controversy surrounding the recent petition created to lower the drinking age to 18 on college campuses. People say it's wrong and foolish, that teenagers could never stop binge drinking even if they were legally allowed to drink. When I first heard of the petition, I thought, how silly to think that by suddenly lowering the magic number, the problem would just go away. Kids are kids, and they're going to be stupid no matter what.

However, after some careful consideration, it dawned on me. Maybe these university presidents are onto something. After all, it's not as though anyone else has stepped up with some sort of solution. Maybe it's foolish, and maybe there won't be immediate results. But, someone has finally taken enough notice to propose action.

Binge drinking, in my opinion, is a product of poor upbringing. Consider a child who's grown up sheltered all his life and always told that drinking was bad. After 18 years, this kid arrives on a college campus. Desperate to try the forbidden brew he's been told all his life would kill him, he takes his first sip. Two shots, one keg stand, and a beer funnel later, this kid is now binge drinking three or four times a week. He finds drinking as an escape and feels bitter towards his parents for sheltering him. As a result, he begins to lose focus on his studies.

Then, consider a kid who was taught all his life that drinking *isn't* bad. Say he was taught how to drink responsibly. His parents were careful to teach him to know his limits and showed him that drinking can be just as effective without going over board. He now arrives on a college campus educated and pre-exposed to alcohol. While this kid may indulge or even drink regularly, he knows his limits. He's not too busy getting hammered to do his work. He's mature about it because he

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Amethyst supporters may have agendas other than "informed debate"

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Online Editor

Saint Leo University's president, Dr. Arthur Kirk, Jr., recently joined with more than 100 other university presidents in signing the Amethyst Initiative, an effort to encourage "informed and unimpeded debate on the 21-year-old drinking age," according to their website. These college presidents believe that a decrease in the novelty of college drinking might lead to a corresponding decrease in the frequency of binge drinking by students. Such a decrease in dangerous drinking habits and underage drinking is an admirable goal.

Unfortunately, many have signed on to the Amethyst Initiative for other than admirable reasons.

Alcohol policy enforcement is a persistant challenge for university administrations. It requires a proactive stance from campus security, resident assistants, professors, concerned students, and local law enforcement.

The problem is, the students who are engaged in illegal drinking activities are also paying customers of the university. Enforcement ends up being a poor business model. Many students today—as sad as it is—are not at a university to learn; they are at a university to drink. And a university, which sells not just an education but a lifestyle to young people, cannot afford to lose its customers by having them suspended, expelled, or arrested for their illegal activities.

"College administrators can only urge abstinence, support the laws, and punish offenders, and that has been very unsuccessful in changing behaviors," said Dr. Kirk in response to a request for comment regarding the Amethyst Initiative. I take Dr. Kirk at his word, but let's get real: the reasons this debate is being revived are (1) kids want to drink and (2) university administrations would like to disown the problem.

I have only been on campus three days as of this writing. Within that time, I've already overheard stories of:

- students getting stranded after partying in Ybor City
- students drinking outside their dorm rooms and apartments
- students climbing campus building exteriors while intoxicated
- piles of empty cases of beer waiting for disposal on "dry" floors in dorms and apartments
- students being too hung over to pay attention in class
- students partying off campus then driving themselves back to campus in a drunken stupor

The idealist in me likes to think that attending a university is about learning, but the realist in me says that the idealist has no clue. Students obviously want the drinking age lowered so they can have easier access to alcohol.

Sadly, university administrators' motivations in "informed and unimpeded debate" probably have more to do with decreasing their liability issues than with promoting student success, let alone safety.

Universities are necessarily

AMETHYST CON'T PAGE 5

Letter From Your Editor

Welcome back, or welcome to Saint Leo University! *The Lions' Pride* is a student run newspaper that is here to serve you.

The newspaper's sole existence is to provide you with information you need, and to help you make informed decisions. That is why *The Lions' Pride* is proud to announce that a new issue will be produced each and every week. The paper will still appear in print twice a month; however, the online version will be updated with a new issue each week.

As T*he Lions' Pride* grows, I invite you to be a part of it. One change I would most definitely like to see in the paper is making it more student oriented. I want to work for you. Please, let me know what you want to see in the paper— what you are interested in reading about. Since this paper is here to serve you, you should at least find it interesting, right?

Send in photos from around the campus, write a letter if there is something you are happy or unhappy about involving Saint Leo, or even the world. If you have something to say, *The Lions' Pride* is your outlet.

Don't be shy; we don't bite, but you can't hide from *The Lions' Pride*.

-Kristin Brittain, Editor in Chief

WRITE HERE

The Lions' Pride newsroom is located in the Student Activities Center, office 106. Our phone number is (352) 588-8316. Send letters to the editor to The Lions' Pride: 33701 State Road 52 Saint Leo, FL 33574 or email us at lions.pride@saintleo.edu. Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department. Please include a phone number (not a publication) so we can verify authorship. All letters are subject to editing. *The Lions' Pride* reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

Democrats unite behind Obama/Biden

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Online Editor

On Thursday, August 28, Senator Barack Obama accepted his party's nomination for president during the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colorado. His acceptance speech took place at Invesco Field before an audience of about 80,000 people. Thirty-eight million Americans tuned in to watch the speech from home.

The speech hit on many topics Obama has championed for his entire campaign but also included several digs at Senator John McCain, the Republican presidential nominee. Many who saw the speech gave Obama high marks for both the speech itself and the spectacle surrounding it—the platform he spoke from was built by Britney Spears' stage tour designers and included Greek columns, large projection screens, and a massive fireworks display that followed the speech.

Joining Obama on stage during the pyrotechnics display was Joe Biden, a 35-year senator from Delaware, who was announced as Obama's running mate on August 22. Biden, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was chosen on the strength of his foreign policy experience.

Biden also ran for the Democratic homination but dropped out of the race after garnering only one percent of the Iowa caucus vote.

In addition to foreign policy credentials, Biden brings to the Democratic ticket a working class sensibility. Born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, Biden's Roman Catholic family moved to Delaware when he was ten years old. After being elected to the U.S. Senate, Biden chose to take the Amtrak commuter train from home to Washington and back every day in order to spend more time with his family.

Shortly after being elected, Biden's wife, daughter, and two sons were in a car accident. His wife and daughter died in the crash, and his sons were critically injured. Four years later, Biden remarried and had another daughter with his second wife, Jill.

Biden's eldest son, Beau, is the Attorney General of Delaware and a captain in the Delaware National Guard who is set to deploy to Iraq in October.

Biden will face off with McCain's running mate, Alaska Governor Sarah Palin, in the Vice Presidential debate on October 2. McCain's announcement on August 29—the morning after Obama's acceptance speech—of Palin as his choice for the GOP number two slot was a surprise to the Obama campaign, the media, and even most Republicans. Obama and Biden have so far been cautious in their comments about the first woman ever on a Republican ticket.

McCain and Palin make gather steam

BY JESSICA PALL
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

The 2008 Republican National Convention in Minnesota proved to be a success. The convention featured a number of speakers including Cindy McCain, Fred Thompson, Joe Lieberman, Sara Palin, Rudy Giuliani, Governor Tom Ridge, and John McCain. All expressed their support of Senator McCain.

On Wednesday night at the convention, Giuliani spoke to Americans and expressed specific reasons people should vote for McCain by saying, "John McCain will bring about the change that will create jobs and prosperity. He will lower taxes so our economy will grow. He will reduce government spending to strengthen our dollar. He will expand free trade so we can be even more competitive. He will lead us toward an America that will be independent of foreign oil by an all-of-the-above approach, including nuclear power and offshore drilling. This is the kind of change we need."

On August 29, 2008, McCain selected Sarah Palin, the Governor of Alaska and former mayor, as his running mate. She provides a wealth of experience as a successful leader of a city and state. Reducing taxes and government spending while also helping America move towards energy independence are a few of her accomplishments. Palin told Americans in her closing remarks Wednesday at the Republican convention that "if character is the measure in this election[...]and hope the theme [...] and change the goal we share, then I ask you to join our cause. Join our cause and help America elect a great man as the next president of the United States."

SLU students also show support for John McCain. When questioned, these students were specifically asked why they would vote for McCain.

"Senator John McCain deeply cares about the issues of young people and all Americans. He is a maverick and proven reformer. He supports the right kind of change needed in Washington," said Sophomore Brandon Brooks.

For students, Brandon Brooks created a facebook group, "SLU students for John McCain," where they can join and learn about McCain and his policies. The purpose of the group is to provide opportunities for students to get involved, encourage political discussion, and help organize and unify support for McCain. The next event for students to get involved in is Saturday, September 3. Students will meet in the Marmion/Synder Lobby at 9:20 a.m. and will help campaign in Land O' Lakes by working the phones and/or going door to door.

Commuters can rent laptops

BY ALYSSA CLOUTIER
Lion's Pride Staff Writer

One of the perks of being an on-campus resident at Saint Leo University is the assurance of a laptop being provided as long as the student continues to reside on Saint Leo's main campus. However, what assurance or perk does a commuter student receive? Well, now commuters can rent the exact same laptop for $428 a year.

Prior to the new switch to Dell, the IBM ThinkPads were available to rent from Saint Leo for $250 per semester, totaling approximately $500 yearly. However, with the company switch, comes new regulations. Laptops can no longer be rented per semester. Though yearly rentals are now the only option, it ends up being cheaper for the student in the long run.

The greatest part of being provided these laptops are the benefits the students receive. Any student, campus or commuter, can bring his or her computer to Technical Support Services to try and resolve any problem.

The process for a commuter student to rent a laptop is simple. An individual wishing to rent a laptop has to go to Technical Support Services and follow the proper procedures.

The fact commuter students are able to rent laptops and receive the same help and repairs as on-campus students comes as a relief to many people.

"When I moved off campus this year, I forgot that I would have to return my laptop. When someone mentioned it to me, I got a little overwhelmed thinking I would need to buy a new laptop. This is a great option though, and I didn't even know it existed," said Senior Nichole Collins.

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President's decision.

"If you are a legal adult at 18, then you should have all the rights of an adult. But, that doesn't mean 18 is the right age to be considered a legal adult," said Janis Lockhart, job location and development coordinator. "There are many responsible adults at the age of 18, but I don't agree with [a lower drinking age] because not enough 18-20 year olds are responsible. There are always exceptions; but overall, I just don't feel that it's wise."

While Kirk's decision does not necessarily reflect the opinion of all of Saint Leo, many agree with him.

"I support lowering the drinking age for reasons connected to my own personal experiences," said Dr. Howard Carey, assistant professor of biology. "I don't think it'll make a difference in the long run because at the end of the day, people who want to drink are going to drink. But, under the right circumstances, a lower drinking age could work."

Carey spoke of a large club on a San Diego naval base years ago. According to Carey, the club allowed only enlisted men to drink—beer at that. Under strict control by the military police, the club was a safe alternative to sneaking into Mexico.

"But because of some outside incident, the club had to be shut down. And, everything they didn't want happening did happen," Carey added, going into detail about court marshalling, enlisted men being arrested by Mexican police, and alcohol poisoning.

Saint Leo has a no tolerance policy for excessive drinking and intoxication. According to the Code of Conduct, "members of the Saint Leo community who choose to drink will be held fully responsible for their behavior while under the influence of alcohol...loss of control due to intoxication does not excuse or justify violation of State Law, University regulations, or the rights of others."

A list of violations and disciplinary actions taken against them can be found in the Handbook on page 139. More studies on alcohol abuse in colleges can be found at http://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov/. The Amethyst Initiative's can be found at http://www.amethystinitiative.org/signatories/.

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reached its full capacity. There are currently 49 vacancies left on campus throughout all of the dorms.

As the population increases, security remains a big issue. This year, Apartments 1-4, Henderson, Benoit, and Marmion and Snyder have working, card-swiping security locks on each of the doors. The goal is to allow any student to enter any residence hall from 8 a.m. until midnight by swiping their student ID card. After midnight, students can only use their cards to enter the building in which they currently live in. This is to prevent the entrance of anyone who does not reside in these buildings. Since Roderick Hall and Alumni Hall are unable to obtain these security systems, students are encouraged to always lock up.

"My biggest concern for safety and security on this campus is that students lock their doors," Posner said.

As for the students, most are pleased with the increase of security.

"I feel better knowing that my door can't be opened with just a credit card," said Junior Anna Robinson, a resident of Apartment 4. "I think we need more security as it is. We could also afford to hire a few more security guards."

As for the future, plans to expand the University are in the making.

"As I believe it, Dr. Kirk and the present staff are being very strategic in moving the institution forward," Posner stated. "I think it's a real credit to our faculty and to the work the admissions staff has done over this past year and previous years in setting up an institution where the reputation continues to grow, and we continue to track a lot of high quality students."

Currently, the institution is actively working on the school of business, as well as increasing parking and planning for the development of additional housing on campus.

Summer of Love: Guatemala

BY COLLEEN SHANAHAN
Lions' Pride Assisstant Online Editor

Imagine being outside of a wedding where the bride and groom exit the church to smiling people. Everyone is standing to the sides making a tunnel and throwing rice at the happy couple. Now, take that same scene, but replace the church with a Guatemalan airport. Instead of well wishers making a tunnel around you, there are guards with AK-47s surrounding and rushing you to your van. Sounds like a nightmare, doesn't it? Well, this was reality for Liz Hardy, who went to Guatemala over the summer for three weeks to donate her time to those less fortunate.

As Liz stepped off the plane, she was confronted with an armed guard assigned to her group to escort them out of the airport.

"Don't talk. Your only mission is to get out of here and into the van. There are rapes and murders here everyday. Just get out of here," the guard told her.

"I thought my Pastor was just being over-dramatic [telling us about what to expect], but he was being so serious," Hardy said.

When Hardy and the rest of the group made it into the van, she was surprised to see that even the driver had a gun.

"We were told that he had the gun because if we stopped along the roads we needed to travel, we would get robbed," Hardy continued.

After two hours of driving up and down mountains in pitch black conditions, Hardy and her group, Groupo Victoria, arrived in Chiquimula. Here, the group would experience three weeks with no hot water or being able to put toilet paper in the toilet.

Hardy became involved in this effort back in New Jersey when a church she was familiar with approached her with an offer to go. Hardy accepted, explaining ,"I never want to have a typical summer. I want to do something with an impact every summer. I didn't want to do something trivial with my time; I knew I could do something so much greater than myself. And of course, I love to travel."

While in Chiquimula, and surrounding towns, Hardy and Groupo Victoria taught English and prayed with the children.

"I was out on the playground, and about one at a time, little boys and girls would come over to me and ask 'would you pray with me?'. It was so amazing," Hardy said.

During the trip, the group required a translator.

"We had one translator throughout the trip. This man left his wife and daughter to pursue this job. He almost didn't come, though, because he had to leave his regular job for the three weeks. His wife was actually the one to suggest he come because he was so worried about money. She told him 'Go. Do God's work. Don't worry about us because God will provide what we need.' His wife was right. Our group took up a donation and ended up paying him two months worth of salary. He was so overcome with emotion. These people had no reason not to trust in God," Hardy said.

photo courtesy of Liz Hardy

Liz and Alberto, a student in Las Lisas School in Guatemala.

Hardy's favorite part of the trip came with an important event at an unusual spot.

"We had a baptism in a local pool; it was amazing to see people commit their lives to Christ. Afterwards, we played in the pool with local children. A group of three little girls came up to me, and I showed them how to shoot water through their palms. Pretty soon, a few little boys saw what was going on, and they wanted to join it. All I had to say was *derecha*, *izquierda*, *agua*, and they understood my movements," she said.

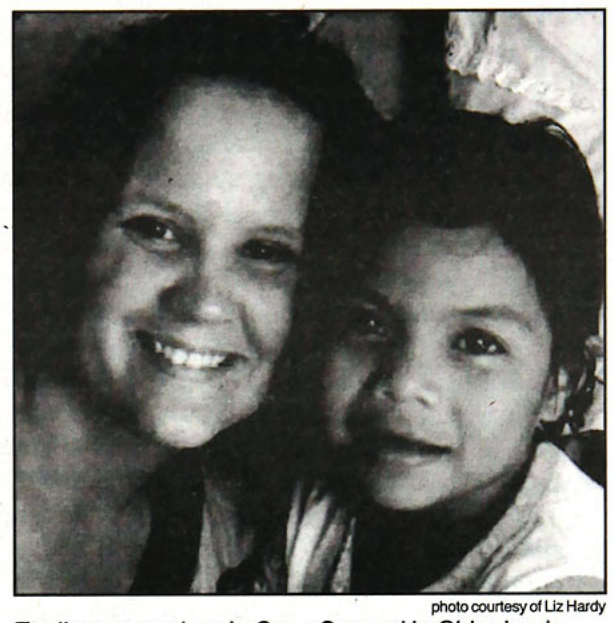


photo courtesy of Liz Hardy

Evalina, an orphan in Casa Samuel in Chiquimula, Guatemala, and Liz.

While she was experiencing happiness, she was hit with reality, too. "I was touched by the things we take for granted, especially dental care. I saw kids with stubs for teeth because all they had money for was penny candy, had no parents, and they did the best they could. From this, their teeth would rot out because they had no toothbrushes. I met a little girl who had metal caps over the three teeth she had. Her parents tried everything to save her teeth. Women would come up to me with their hands over their mouths because they were too ashamed to smile. I realized something as simple as a toothbrush meant the difference between a smile and absolute poverty. I can't get through the day without smiling. I couldn't imagine it," she commented.

Hardy and Groupo Victoria also enjoyed being local celebrities.

"Before we arrived, they had advertisements up about us on sides of buses and commercials. We were in a supermarket and all of a sudden a group of twenty something guys started saying 'Groupo Victoria! Groupo Victoria!' I said, 'goodness, we have a riot going on!'" Hardy noted.

Hardy and the group used their "rockstar" status to spread the word of God at packed arenas. "We preached and sang in front of groups of 5,000 plus people. Before I knew about the sheer numbers, I was selected to sing for everyóne. Before I went on, my preacher looked at me and whispered, 'Liz, there are 5,000 people out there,' I wanted to scream," Hardy said. When the trip was over, Liz and Groupo Victoria headed back to the United States. Hardy said, "We came back through Miami, and I stepped out of the bathroom and told the group, 'I flushed toilet paper in the toilet!'"

Like she wanted, the trip turned what could have been an ordinary summer into an adventure.

"I wanted to do something out of my routine to help someone else. I didn't want to work 40 hours a week to go out and spend it," Hardy said.

Hardy earned much more than money this summer. Instead of money, she was paid with the ability to pray, support, and encourage those less fortunate than her. Instead of paper money, which could be spent in an instant, she received payment in memories that would last a lifetime.

The Learning Resource Center is here for students

BY KATIE GAISER
Lions' Pride Layout Editor

Looking to get an easy A? Need a place to escape? Can't get enough coffee and popcorn?

There's only one place on campus students can find that will satisfy their every need. It's the Learning Resource Center (LRC).

Located on the second floor of the Student Activities Building, the LRC is a relaxing and welcoming environment for any student looking to hang out, get some help with their homework, or surf the internet.

Equipped with large, cozy couches, a computer lab, and free snacks, the LRC is the perfect place to spend your free time.

The computer lab currently offers access to 15 brand new computers, all hard-lined into the network and connected to a brand new printer. The LRC also offers lightening fast wireless internet that can be accessed from any spot in the place. There are plenty of outlets available to plug in laptops.

But, coffee and comfort aren't the only things this place has to offer.

The LRC also provides free tutoring by appointment or drop-in for a wide variety of subjects, some of which include math, English, philosophy, and accounting. Some tutors are students and others are professionals who have not only an educational background, but also experience in their field.

The LRC also plans to run a series of six writing workshops throughout the end of October. They will be offered three times a week, so students can pick the time that works best for them. Whether students need help with organization of their papers, MLA citation, or how to use the internet for research, these workshops are designed to help in every area.

The LRC has a created a Math Team. This team is composed of a group of traveling math tutors dedicated to helping students in need of some coaching in sections 003, 128, 131 and 141. See the schedule for dates and times.

The LRC has taken tutoring to a new level. They are now working within a system called the Supplemental Instruction Program. How this works is a coach is assigned to a certain section of a class to help guide the students through the material and offer any assistance needed. The coach models excellent student behavior and holds facilitated workshops once or twice a week. These workshops give students an opportunity to study together and learn to master the content.

"Across the board, students who participate in our program perform at a higher level, their grades are better, and they understand the material more thoroughly," said Shannon Greer, supervisor of supplemental instruction.

The LRC is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30a.m. to 10p.m., Friday from 7:30a.m. to 5p.m. and Sunday from 5p.m. to 10p.m.

The following student tutors have Supplemental Instruction responsibilities and will be on the clock but not present in the LRC. Their appointment schedules reflect these appointments.

Angie Cruz	ECO 201	Mondays 6 pm to 7 pm in LH 307
Jessa Huybrechts	ECO 202	Mondays 6 pm to 7 pm in LH 303
Christine Barabas	SPA 111	Mondays 3:30 to 4:30 pm SAB 205 & Thurs 11:30 to 12:30 SAB 205
Tasheira Morley	MAT 151	Tuesdays 6 pm to 7 pm LH 206 Thursdays 7 pm to 8 pm LH 120
Ally Maddox	ECO 202	Tuesdays 7 pm to 8 pm LH 303
Wes Johnson	ENG 002	Wednesdays 6:30 to 7:30 pm LH 120
Ben Lewis	PHY 221	Physics: Thursdays 6 to 7 pm LH 305
	MAT 231	Calculus: Thursdays 7 to 9 pm LH 306
Erica Frye	HTY 121	Thursdays 8 to 9 pm LH 120
Math Team: Emily Farnsworth Sara Moores Andrea Setliff	MAT 003,128.131,141	Mon/Wed 5:30 to 8:30 pm LH 305 Fridays 11 am to 2 pm AC 2

The Lions' Pride Goes Weekly!

BY JOSHUA SMITH
Lions' Pride Online Editor

Attention Lions' Pride readers: Starting in the 2008-2009 academic year, *The Lions' Pride* will be published weekly. For the fall 2008 semester, the print edition of *The Lions' Pride* will still be published every two weeks with new issues appearing on Fridays. However, an extra edition will appear on *The Lions' Pride Online* between new issues of the print edition.

If you have not already done so, log on to *http://prideonline.saintleo.edu* and bookmark our page for the latest campus news and views as well as our coverage of arts, entertainment, and sports. Thanks for supporting *The Lions' Pride* !

Wiregrass, debuts in Wesley Chapel

BY KERRI HEASLEY
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Come October 30, Saint Leo students will no longer have to travel to Tampa or Brandon in search of a good mall.

The highly anticipated, 800,000 square foot Wiregrass Mall is opening on October 30. This innovative outdoor mall will be located at the intersection of Bruce B. Downs Boulevard and State Road 56.

Due to the increased traffic flow, the shopping center will undoubtedly cause, the road is being widened to six lanes. According to Kevin Wiatrowski of *The Tampa Tribune*, city officials just approved the request to allow 24 hour work on the road in order to be ready by October 30.

The shops at Wiregrass will feature Dillard's and Macy's as anchors, as well as JC Penny, which has been open since 2005. Other stores opening in the Wiregrass Mall include Barnes & Noble, Hot Topic, Hollister, J. Jill, Coach, Pottery Barn, Limited Too, Victoria's Secret, Talbots, Cacique, American Greetings, and much more.

Wiregrass Mall
Courtesy of The Tampa Tribune

Among the stores and restaurants opening there is a new business venture upon us. Wiatrowski also noted that Anthony Rosas and Jeff Martin are proud to be opening a craft beer store called The Brass Tap. The *Tampa Tribune* revealed that The Brass Tap will offer 40 different types of beer on tap and 300 types of beer in bottles available for take out. The Brass Tap is holding a grand opening benefit for the American Cancer Society on November 1 to raise awareness.

There is obvious excitement about the new Wiregrass Mall around the campus of Saint Leo University.

"I'm really excited about the new mall opening, and I'm happy that it is so close to the school. It's about time some new entertainment was introduced to this area," said Junior Amanda Walsh when asked how she felt about the new mall.

The Wiregrass Mall will provide more than just entertainment to the students of Saint Leo University. The opening of the mall will also provide much needed part time jobs to students as well as other people living in the vicinity.

Best Buddies: Bring out the best in Saint Leo

BY SIMONE WILLIAMS
Lions' Pride Ad Manager

Everyone has a best friend. Best friends understand each other. Best friends are there for each other. Best friends form strong bonds that last a lifetime. Best friends bring out the best in each other. Saint Leo offers students the chance to bring out the best in someone else by joining Best Buddies.

Best Buddies is a club dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships and integrated employment.

Best Buddies International was founded by Anthony K. Shriver in 1989. Shriver observed the lack of opportunity for people with intellectual disabilities to socialize with their peers who were "normal." Shriver was very close to an aunt of his who had an intellectual disability. Recognizing the power and impact of one-to-one friendships in the development of self-esteem, Shriver hoped to improve disabled people's lives by improving their outlook and increasing their integration into society. And so, Best Buddies was formed.

Best Buddies International is a worldwide organization comprised of six program divisions that impact more than 350,000 people every year in 40 countries. Best Buddies International and its programs are headquartered in Miami, Florida.

Best Buddies International has six programs that encourage socialization for people with intellectual disabilities. They are Best Buddies Middle Schools, Best Buddies High Schools, Best Buddies Colleges, Best Buddies Citizens, Best Buddies Jobs, and e-Buddies. Saint Leo is apart of Best Buddies Florida, the college chapter.

Best Buddies Florida has more than 20 college and university chapters. Saint Leo is paired with the Student Transition Experience Program at Saint Leo, also known as STEPS. STEPS and Best Buddies hope to make 10 Buddy pairs at Saint Leo this year. That can only happen with the support of Saint Leo students.

To join Best Buddies at Saint Leo, contact Jessica Dominguez at JessicaDominguez@bestbuddies.org. Contact Mary Jo McEwen at mmcewen@pasco.k12.fl.us to learn more about STEPS. For more information about Best Buddies Florida, visit their website at http://www.bestbuddiesflorida.org.

TOAST FROM PAGE 2

was taught his whole life that if he was going to drink, he must drink responsibly.

In other words, we can't simply stop the problem by lowering the drinking age. While it may take some of the excitement out of drinking after a while, allowing kids to legally drink during their first time being away from home is a risky move. I give credit to these presidents for having the guts to even propose such an idea.

The solution is simple. Parents need to educate their children about drinking from the moment they are born. If they are pre-exposed and educated about the dangers of drinking and how to know their limits, they will grow to be more successful and responsible young adults. Just take a look at some of the European countries that even allow their children to start having wine at dinner at the age of 8. The parents drink with the kids and show them how to behave. As a result, these countries have some of the lowest numbers of deaths caused by teenage drinking in the world.

I believe this country often neglects the idea of pre-disposal and early childhood education on such things like drugs, alcohol, and sex. Sure there's an educational video here and there at school for such things, but nothing effective has ever been done. I'm sure if those videos were worth anything, we wouldn't be having this problem in the first place. Kids need to be educated early, in their homes, and by their parents. The more they learn, the less they need to go find out on their own. Don't make it a secret that drinking is fun and everyone does it, because the secret will soon be found out. Cheers!

AMETHYST FROM PAGE 2

between a rock and a hard place when it comes to alcohol. If they increase enforcement, their enrollment goes down. If they cast a blind eye, they risk real tragedy occurring and corresponding finger pointing by victims.

The problem of alcohol on campuses is nothing new. I remember attending a frat party back in the day which took place a week after an alcohol-related tragedy. The party, of course, went on–despite the fact that an underage student had fallen to his death from a third floor balcony while binge drinking. Yes, I understand the party will go on regardless of the drinking age.

However, it is reckless and irresponsible for students or administrators to pretend that binge drinking is anything other than it is: dangerous. Binge drinking is not going to decrease if the drinking age is lowered to 18. Instead of 18-year-olds drinking because the drinking age is 21, we'll have 15-year-olds drinking because the drinking age is 18. Changing the drinking age is not a solution—it is a trade-off.

It's a trade-off that favors university administrators. No longer would the problem of alcohol enforcement and liability be their problem; it would be passed down to the high schools.

That is most likely why the Amethyst Initiative exists. The initiative itself is carefully worded not to support a lowering of the drinking age but simply to encourage debate. However, one need only follow the money to find the true reasons for the existence of the Amethyst Initiative.

Dr. Kirk stated that his "main reason for signing the Amethyst Initiative was in support of an open national discussion of under aged drinking on college campuses." Let us hope that Dr. Kirk and the other 100-plus university presidents who signed the Amethyst Initiative truly have students' best interests in mind.

Arts & Entertainment

Ever think you would laugh at a funeral?

BY KRISTIN BRITTAIN
Lions' Pride Editor in Chief

Cannon Memorial Library was busting at the seams Wednesday night as Yasmine Van Wilt performed her one woman show along with a short showcase of her original music.

Wilt performed *Dearly Departed*, a one act play she wrote, directed, and starred in, to a large audience. Library Director Brent Short introduced Dr. Mary Spoto, chair of the English department, who said a special introduction before Wilt began her play.

"It is a very special privilege to introduce Yasmine tonight because she is the daughter of our beloved professor, Dr. Wilt," began Dr. Spoto. She then spoke of how they got to watch Yasmine grow up, beginning from when she was a young girl sitting in her dad's office chair.

Photograph by Brandy Scaglione.

Yazmin Wilt performs for Saint Leo students.

Dearly Departed was a dark comedy filled with many funny twists, including infidelity, deception, and great comical song writing. Such lyrics included, "I'm sorry to say you're like a big mac, because loving you is giving me a heart attack." The story shows the great ability of one woman to love, forgive, and to have the ability to move on.

After such a warm introduction, the room grew still as Wilt entered as the character Sam, a recently widowed woman reading the will of her late husband, Kenny, at a moose lodge with their family and friends present. Even though Wilt was the only physical character within the play, she made it very apparent of the other personalities dwelling within the story.

For the entire eight months Kenny was dying in hospice, no one came to visit (except Sam's best friend John). Sam's sister, Sheryl, who had an affair with Kenny for three years didn't even visit him. Despite this, during the will reading Kenny left a side note for Sheryl, which Sam bitterly reads, that he will love her forever.

Taking a surprising twist, Kenny drops the bombshell of his lifetime within his will. It seems that he did not squander his past lottery winnings and in fact invested $800,000 in the stock market before he died. In his will, Kenny left Sam, Sheryl, John, and Mildred money. Sam goes into a small shock because it seemed this part of Kenny she never knew. The show then concludes with Sam playing a song that she wrote for him on her honeymoon and then leaves for a date.

Dearly Departed is a hilarious one act play that leaves the audience wanting more. Wilt's talent was enough to fill the room with the presence of a full cast even though she was the only physical character. In her biography it states that playwriting is her first passion, and it is easy to see why.

Wilt has won numerous awards and recognitions including four consecutive South Eastern Theatre Conference titles for best writer and best actress for *Still Life*, her first full-length play, and winner in 2001 of International WordBRIDGE playwriting competition.

After the play and a small musical set, Wilt complained that her voice was off due to coming from sub arctic London to tropical Florida. But by the looks from the crowd, it was easy to see she had nothing to complain about.

Upcoming Events

Campus

Battle of the Halls
SCC Patio and Bowl
September 16
5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Student Involvement Fair
SCC Plaza and Loggias
September 17
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Student Involvement Poster Sale
SCC Plaza
September 17-18
10:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Premium Dinner Night
Dining Hall
September 18
4:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Canoeing/Kayaking Crystal Springs
Meet at Security
10:00 a.m.

Go Greek Week
September 22-26

Movie Night
Selby
September 24
8:00 p.m.

Food for Thought Dinner Tour
Ethiopian Restaurant
September 26
Admission $5
Sign up in Student Activities Bldg
#114 by September 24

Off Campus

Halloween Horror Nights begins September 26 @ Universal Studios Orlando

Howl-O-Scream begins September 26 @ Busch Gardens Tampa

90210 and a Half...

More to a New Series than Viewers May Want

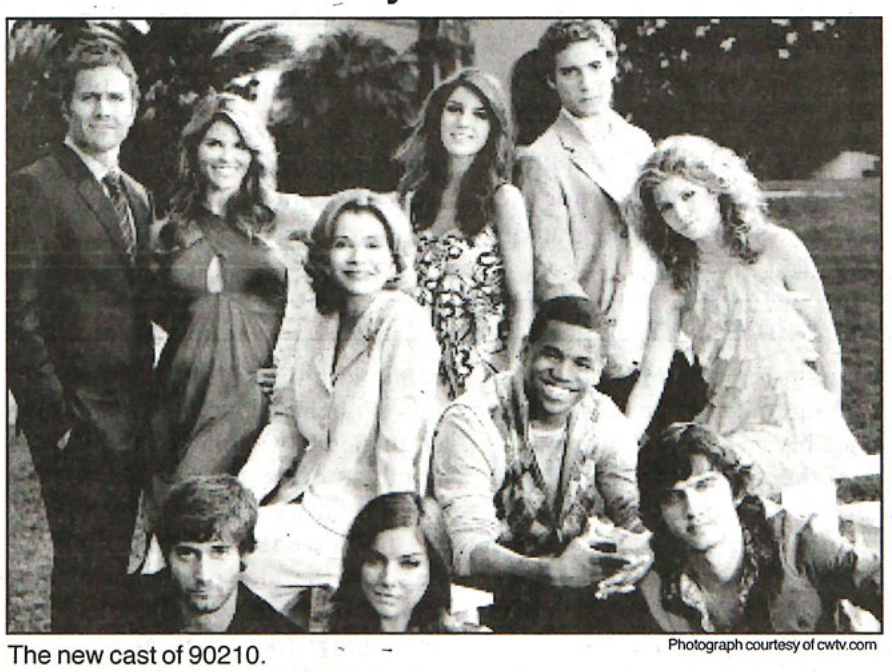
BY CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

From now on *The Hills* on MTV at 10 p.m. on Monday will not be the only show worth watching for the week. There is another to add to the college-aged soaps, *90210*. Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. has worked its way into the race for most drama in an hour.

For those viewers who were expecting Kelly Taylor, Brandon Walsh, and Dylan McKay from the original *Beverly Hills 90210* series, that was far from what premiered on September 2 at 8p.m. on CW44. A new cast in the same area code took their first crack at a familiar audience and relayed the same drama-filled, glamorous, "West Beverly" scene.

The series begins with a new family driving into town. Annie (Shenae Grimes) and Dixon Wilson (Tristan Wilds) are two teens relocated from Kansas into the busy and demanding life of Beverly Hills. However, they are met by the peer pressure of the school diva, Naomi Clark (Anna Lynne McCord), and the jock on the block, Ethan Ward (Dustin Milligan).

Within the new family there is plenty of drama that comes out, including the fact that Dixon is adopted and that the father, Harry Wilson (Rob Estes), is the new principle of West Beverley High School where Kelly Taylor (Jeanie Garth) is a guidance counselor.



Photograph courtesy of cwtv.com

The new cast of 90210.

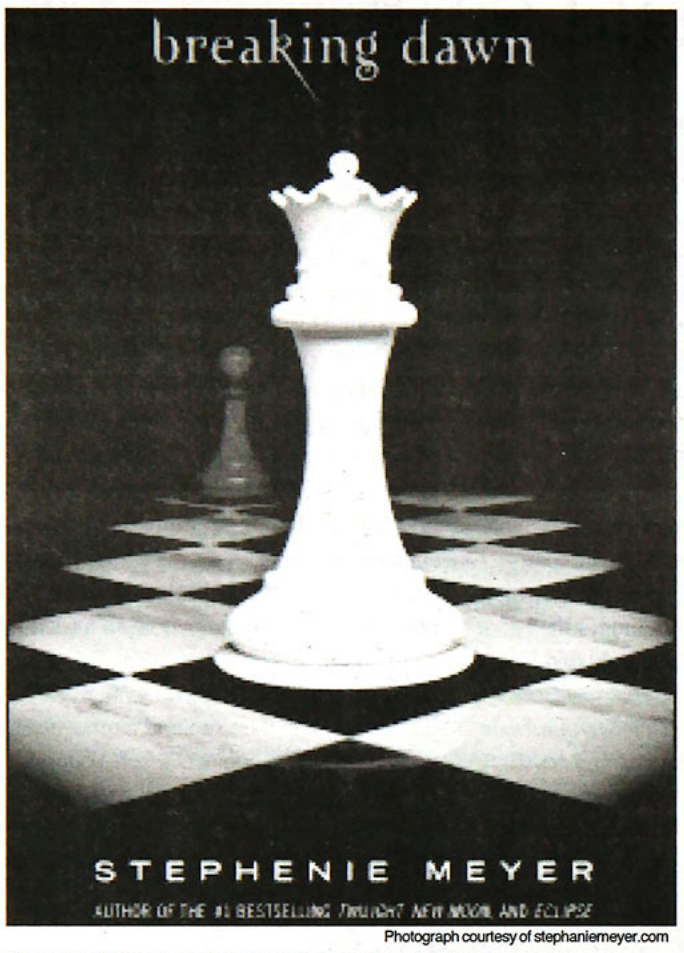
However, the way it was executed took too long with not enough information. By the end of the second hour of the premier, there were still rivals and parts of stories that were untold. For those television watchers who are not into the "typical teenage soap opera," this program is not for you.

For those who are into "flash in the pan" series such as *The O.C.*, this program is packed with the back-stabbing, tear-jerking chaos that any soap opera would be happy to put to script. Between the drunken grandmother, once a Hollywood TV star, and the abrupt possibility of a drug addict during the first issue, this series has the possibility to wear itself out in a hurry.

Despite its new edge effect, however poor it may be, there are still a few pleasant surprises for past fans. For instance, the Peach Pit and its owner Nat (Joe Tata) are still serving up coffee, milkshakes, and burgers. Also, another former character, Brenda Walsh, played by Shannon Doherty, shows up as a long lost friend in town for a visit.

The potential for drama is sincerely present, but the screen writers need to pick it up, as well as the amount of information given about the past between characters. The question is, "Can the cast keep up with the emotionally draining story line and still manage to deliver a performance worthy of the original series?"

Breaking Dawn is Breaking Charts!



Photograph courtesy of stephaniemeyer.com

Cover of Stephanie Meyer's new book *Breaking Dawn.*

BY KERRI HEASLEY
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

A vampire falls in love with a human? Talk about an unconventional love story!

Breaking Dawn is the fourth and final novel in the *Twilight* saga written by Stephenie Meyer. The main character, Bella Swan, has gone through many trials and tribulations because of her devotion to Edward Cullen, a vampire.

In the novel, Bella and Edward finally wed in a lavish wedding planned by Edward's sister, Alice. Following the wedding, the happy couple takes a long honeymoon on a secluded island. Much to everyone's surprise and horror, Bella becomes pregnant with Edward's child.

No one in the Cullen clan knows what to expect from this conception because Bella is a human and Edward is a vampire…a forbidden union of sorts.

Bella experiences an accelerated pregnancy with many complications involved. The Cullen family does everything in their power to save the baby and Bella. Edward knows that there really is only one thing that will save his beloved.

Meanwhile, the powerful Volturi clan, an ancient group of vampires that sets forth rules and regulations for others to follow, knows something is amiss. The birth of Bella and Edward's child does not fall under any of these rules.

The Cullen family knows they must prepare for an imminent attack from the Volturi, but will they be able to succeed? Will they be able to prove to the Volturi that the baby will pose no harm?

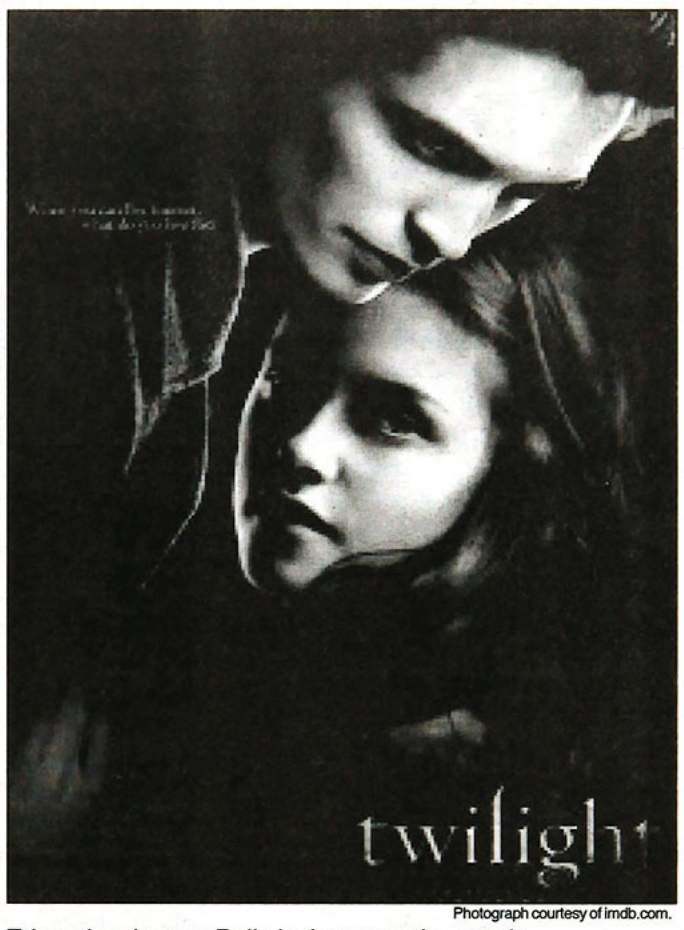
This much-anticipated final novel by Stephenie Meyer lacked some dramatic elements that the other books in the series had. Stephenie Meyer's writing and characterization was superb, but the plot called for more excitement.

Avid readers of the *Twilight* series will either adore or loath this final book. Some will be let down by the lack of conflict in the book, while others will be relieved to see the main characters happy.

Breaking Dawn is full of romance, and is not a typical novel about vampires. Stephenie Meyer takes a different approach veering away from the classic view of the vampire tale, making them more humane. This novel will greatly appeal to the female persuasion, in that every girl wants to fall in love with a guy like Edward. However, males may enjoy *Breaking Dawn* as well because of the action and science fiction aspect of it.

The much awaited book came out on August 2, 2008 in North America. The first book in the series, *Twilight*, has recently been adapted into a major motion picture. *Twilight* the movie will be released on November 21, 2008.

Kristen Stewart (2007's Into the Wild) will play Bella the lead character and Robert Pattinson (2005's Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire) will play the lead of Edward. Currently, there are only plans to make a movie out of the first book.



Photograph courtesy of imdb.com.

Edward embraces Bella in the upcoming movie *Twilight.*

Whoever said romance was dead?

BY BRANDY SCAGLIONE
Lions' Pride Photo Editor

A prep, punk, and techno-head come together to reflect on heartache and *Midnight Romance* while learning harsh lessons on the way, and no, this isn't the set up of *The Breakfast Club* remake. It happens to be the new blend of music offered by the electro-pop artists of A Kiss Could Be Deadly!

With lyrics covering every teenage angst love topic (lust, lost and unrequited love) AKCBD is a tough band not to fall in love with.

For fellow students who have been feeling ill from the lack of great music floating around the electro-pop scene lately, take the AKCBD prescription! It's recommended for those fans of the lyrical genius of Paramore and with music that can only parallel the late '80s pop craze mixed with some present scene punk rock.

Lauren Baird, front woman for AKCBD, has a voice reminiscent of the '80s pop-rock idol Pat Benetar and joins the ever-growing rank of female vocal artists, giving that extra oomph to the current rock scene.

With catchy tracks such as *Midnight Romance*, and their current hit *Poison IV*, it's a wonder that their CD was just released in March of 2008. Almost every student can relate to meeting someone at a party and hoping it ends in a *Midnight Romance*, but with lyrics such as "Our eyes close as we cross the line/ Your lips part and slowly move towards mine/My heart stops for the second time," it's a wonder why we don't feel the strong emotional pull of such heartstrings every night.

Photograph courtesy of myspace.com

A Kiss Could Be Deadly from their Alternative Press photoshoot.

Rejection and regret are also topics frequented by the college scene, and they are also addressed in AKCBD's hit *Poison IV* with the mantra of, "Romance is dead and gone/Leave it buried."

So whether you're trying to get the guts to show your crush you even exist, getting an ex off of your mind, or to rationalize those lustful feelings of a one-night stand, A Kiss Could Be Deadly should be first on your iTunes play list.

Now On...

The Big Screen
The Women
Burn After Reading
The Family That Preys

CD
Death Magnetic
Metallica
Do You Know
Jessica Simpson
Do You Believe in Gosh?
Mitch Hedberg

DVD
C.S.I Miami-Season Six
Grey's Anatomy- Season Four
Ugly Betty-Season Two
Baby Mama

(Soon on...) Book
Brisingr by Christopher Paolini
Inkdeath by Cornelia Funke

Sports

Make way for Montoya

BY JIMMY BILANCIONE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Who is Eusebio Montoya?

To some, he might be known as a Smithfield, North Carolina native born in Mexico who is majoring in business management. To many on the pitch, he is a 5 foot 6 forward known simply as "Sabs" who has set himself apart as a fan favorite entering his final season on the Saint Leo University men's soccer team. Senior Ryan Poticny, a devoted fan, has even created an ode to Montoya chant that is sung to the tune of "You are My Sunshine."

Photograph by: Mike Carlson

Senior, Montoya makes sure the Lions have every chance to win a game regardless of how he looks.

In his three years at Saint Leo University, Montoya has racked up 32 goals and 21 assists in 46 games played and 44 games started. This year, Montoya is off to another great start after scoring two goals in the season opener on home turf against visiting Montreat College. With the help of his teammate, Senior Brandon Whitsett, who also scored in the opening game, the team secured the win.

Despite an injury, Montoya continues to get the job done. Over time, Montoya has rehabbed various injuries, including a groin injury, hamstring injuries, and a right foot injury.

"It's obviously hard to train and play, but I just have to do it. I'm definitely not 100 percent, but it will just take time,"said Montoya

His constant dedication and hard work shows real passion for his team and the program. There is never a doubt in any fan's mind Montoya is lagging on the field or is not ready to play.

"Since it's my last year, I hope to cherish every moment. I want to win every time I step on the field. I want to win the conference and make it into the playoffs. I want to leave here with another title," said Montoya.

With an influx of new players on the team, it is also an exciting time for the future of the team, especially since these new players have the privilege to work with veterans like Montoya. Montoya has the advantage to use this season to enjoy his final season at Saint Leo, while leaving a little piece of his talent with some of the younger players

This is definitely one of many Saint Leo University men's soccer players to keep an eye on here and after college. He has such a passion for the game; this is what he knows and loves to do. He hopes to play professionally once his collegiate career is over, which means more Montoya chants are likely to continue, which is music to Saint Leo men's soccer fan's ears.

SAINT LEO SCORES

VOLLEYBALL	Sep. 5, 2008	Sep. 5, 2008
Aug. 29, 2008	Northwood	West Florida
Central Oklahoma	3-0 W	2-0 L
3-0 W	Sep. 6, 2008	Sep. 7, 2008
Aug. 29, 2008	Valdosta St.	Thomas University
Ashland	3-1 W	2-1 L
3-1 W	Sep. 6, 2008	**WOMEN'S SOCCER**
Aug. 30, 2008	St. Thomas	Aug. 28, 2008
St. Thomas	3-0 W	Clearwater Christian
3-1 W	**MEN'S SOCCER**	12-0 W
Aug. 30, 2008	Aug. 28, 2008	Sep. 5, 2008
Northwood	Montreat College	West Florida
3-1 W	3-2 W	2-0 L
Sep. 5, 2008	Aug. 30, 2008	Sep. 7, 2008
Converse	Univ. of Indianapolis	Thomas University
3-0 W	(2OT) 1-0 W	7-1 W

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Women's Soocer	Men's Soccer	Volleyball
Sep. 10, 2008	Sep. 16, 2008	Sep. 23, 2008
7 p.m.	7 p.m.	7 p.m
Women's Soccer	Volleyball	
Sep. 12, 2008	Sep. 19, 2008	
4 p.m.	7 p.m.	
Men's Soccer	Women's Soccer	
Sep. 12, 2008	Sep. 23, 2008	
7 p.m.	7 p.m.	

All scores and recaps are available on saintleolions.com

T-R-Y-O-U-T-S: Cheerleaders Wanted for Spring Semester

BY SCOTT LANDRY
Lions' Pride Assistant Sports Editor

To all those phenomenal former high school cheerleaders, break out those pom-poms and bloomers because it's almost time for cheerleading tryouts!

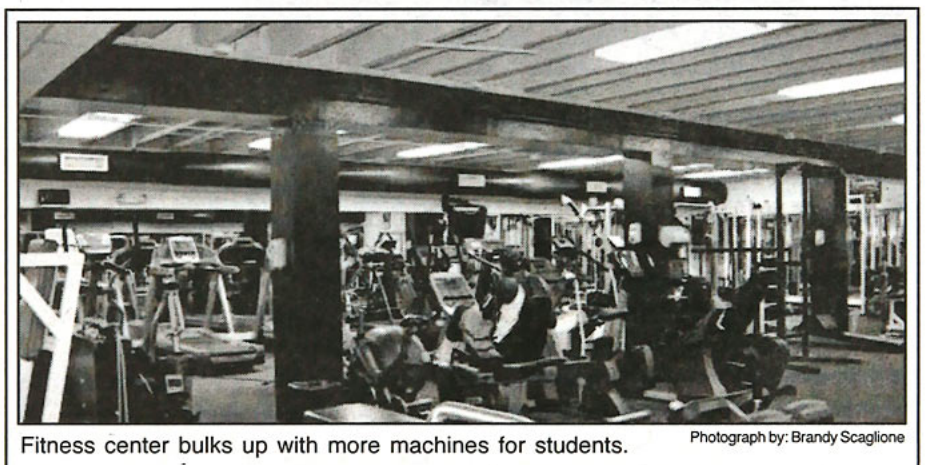
Despite the fact cheerleaders are only present at basketball games, it is never too early to start memorizing those cheers for games and choreographing dances for competition.

Emi Young is the new head coach of the team. Young has had a lot of experience with competitive cheerleading, which means more of an upperhand for the Lions to show what they can really do this season.

Young is requesting that anyone, male or female, because Saint Leo is a co-ed team, interested in the team come to the following tryout dates. Friday, September 12 from 5-8:30 p.m., Saturday, September 13 from 12-4 p.m., and Sunday, September 14 at 1p.m. September 14 will be the day of judgment, and those who make the team will have their first practice on Wednesday, September 17 from 6-8:30 p.m.

Young has plans to bring the team to an NCAA sponsored cheer camp prior to the start of the season, as well as participating in competition. Young hopes that the camp will give the team a little bit more insight into what other schools have to bring to the table come competition time. As some students know, the team did come away from their last competition placing well and bringing home a co-ed team honor.

For those students who want to participate with the team and their expectations for success, contact Coach Young by e-mail at cheerleading@saintleo.edu.



Fitness center bulks up with more machines for students. Photograph by: Brandy Scaglione

Lions Style Fitness

For those new and returning gym fanatics, there is good news: no more waiting for treadmills. Saint Leo University Fitness Center took advantage of the summer and prepared for the high volume of gym-goers. The gym now includes two more treadmills, for a total of five, two more ellipticals, another bike, and some impressive weight machines for those who are looking to bulk up.Runners, cardio-crazies, and muscle men can come to the gym with ease that more machines are available.

A Change from Player to Coach

BY KRISTIN BRITTAIN
Lions' Pride Editor in Chief

Former defenseman, Virginia Davenport, 5th year senior, has now joined Head Coach Ged O'Connor and the rest of the coaching staff for the Saint Leo women's soccer program.

As Davenport finished her last year of eligibility in the Lions' 2007-2008 season, she racked up a plethora of achievements in numbers. In her senior year, she started every game and lent quite the hand in helping Saint Leo have a tremendous year with a 15-5 record, a 6-2 in the Sunshine State Conference, and a place in the regional tournament.

Now Davenport, although she is not playing, has the privilege to continue being a part of the team while starting to experience the coaching aspect of it. As the Lions start their season, Davenport is seated next to last year's assistant, Tommy Poston, and O'Connor.

"I'm the new guy, as Tommy and I say. I am at the bottom of the totem pole," said Davenport.

Some players may think they know what the coaches do, but there is a lot more that Davenport didn't realize went on behind the scenes, not to mention how different the view is from the sidelines than from on the field.

"You think you know what to do, but there is a lot more behind the scenes that I am learning," said Davenport.

Even though Davenport is no stranger to learning new things, especially as a double major, she wants to make sure that even as the new guy she is being distinguished, through her professionalism and her player experience, as a coach and not a player.

"I put more pressure on myself because I am trying to distinguish myself as a coach and not a player," said Davenport.

Not only does she get to see the other side of the game, she also gets to spend more time with the players, her friends, as a mentor, and as someone who was once there. This position is not something that Davenport is ruling out for another year either. With Poston in his last year as assistant, O'Connor is leaving it as an option for Davenport to consider in future plans.

"That is an option that I am leaving open, but nothing has been officially decided," said Davenport.